

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Objections to Planning Application 17/02372/F: The Old Post Office, Main Street, Sibford Ferris, Banbury, OX15 5RG. Erection of second storey extension to an existing single storey utility room with the renovation of the current rear ancillary buildings

The parish council has no objection to the extension plans themselves, but has serious concerns about car parking provision consequent to conversion of the garage.

Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016, 4.9: "Traffic management will be used to improve safety and the environment for pedestrians and cyclists and to give priority to buses over other vehicles, particularly at congestion points so as to improve reliability of bus services."

Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031, Policy SLE4: "All development where reasonable to do so, should facilitate the use of sustainable modes of transport to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling. ... Development which is not suitable for the roads that serve the development and which have a severe traffic impact will not be supported."

There is a serious problem with parking on this section of Main Street which frequently causes delay to the local service bus, sometimes forcing it to backup and make a detour. In the opinion of the parish council, any development that potentially increases parking on Main Street, such as the loss of a garage, should be resisted, unless alternative off-street parking is provided as part of the development. The parish council feels that this is an important principle to uphold even if the garage in question is not currently used to house a vehicle.

The parish council understands that the lane adjacent to the dwelling is within the curtilage of the applicant's property. In the opinion of the parish council it would be practical, possibly after some levelling of the ground, to provide one or two parking places there to compensate for the loss of the garage. Such provision should be made a condition of the development.